

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1854.

LET US HAVE LIGHT.

We have heretofore avowed our opposition to any effort to keep alive agitation with a view to any such impracticable and useless result as the repeal of the Nebraska act; but we confess we are at a loss to conceive what there is in the annexed resolution of the New York Whig Convention to draw down on it such vehement denunciation on the part of some Southern Whig journals. Read the resolution and give us its point:

"Resolved, That against the principles involved in the Nebraska bill, in their application either to territory now belonging to the Union or hereafter to be acquired, the Whigs of New York will struggle with equal resolution and confidence that they cannot receive the sanction of the American people; and in this struggle we will co-operate, on terms of equality and fraternity, of all sincere and earnest champions of free labor and free soil."

In this resolution the Whigs of New York pledge themselves to struggle against the "principles involved in the Nebraska bill." Now, what are these principles? According to the interpretation of Northern Democrats there is but one principle in the bill, viz: "Popular Sovereignty," as explained by them, or "Sovereignty," as denounced by both Whigs and Democrats of the South since 1848; when it was proclaimed by Gen. Cass in his Nicholson letter. That this "great principle," about which the official paper and its adjuncts talk so fluently, is far from being palatable to the Southern Democracy, cannot be denied by any one who is familiar with the almost universal denunciation of the doctrine in that quarter. The Democracy there are not to be misled by the homely phrase of "popular sovereignty," particularly since it is the boast of the press and politicians in the North and West that the measure is practically adverse to the spread of slavery. The metropolitan organ has played so strongly upon what it fancied to be a popular key that it has provoked the Richmond Enquirer to the following indignant repudiation and emphatic warning:

FROM THE RICHMOND ENQUIRER OF OCTOBER 3.

Squatter Sovereignty.—A New Plan in the Platform.—The indiscreet zeal with which the Washington Union is laboring to incorporate the Cass dogma of Squatter Sovereignty into the creed of the Democratic party excites universal regret among the Democracy of the South. For ourselves, we enter an earnest protest against any such mischievous innovation.

In 1848, when Gen. Cass promulgated this doctrine of squatter sovereignty in timid and ambiguous phraseology, the Democratic party in the South rejected the principle with unanimous and indignant protest. They even went so far as to dispute its paternity, and to maintain, with much show of reason, that Gen. Cass did not entertain any such heresy. His words were susceptible of a double meaning, and, unwilling to impugn either his sense or his soundness, we gave him the benefit of a charitable interpretation. In truth, we could not believe that a statesman in whom we reposed implicit trust was really the victim of so absurd a delusion. The Democracy of the South will never forget with what a rude shock they were awakened from their stupid confidence. The election over, Gen. Cass favored the country with a commentary on the obscure text of his Nicholson letter, and, with an emphasis and frankness of explanation which we shudder to recollect, actually disputed the sanity of any man who could not see Squatter Sovereignty in his arcanal epistle. For all our nice distinction and laborious exposition we got the reward of contempt for our stupidity.

If Gen. Cass had honestly avowed his meaning before the election, we doubt if he would have received the vote of a single State in the South, so UNIVERSAL WAS THE REPUDIATION of his squatter sovereignty dogma by THE REPUBLICAN RIGHTS DEMOCRACY. Time and reflection have but confirmed its MISCHIEVOUS TENDENCY; and yet the Washington Union proposes to interpolate it into the platform of the party. Names do not alter the nature of things, and the heresy is still the same, and not the less monstrous, although we give it the advantage of an attractive label. The principle that the Territories have the right to determine the character of their own institutions is not the less repulsive to the State Rights Democracy for the captivating phrase popular sovereignty.

The "Union" professes to find authority for the doctrine of squatter sovereignty in the terms of the Nebraska bill; and we must confess there is too much reason in the allegation. To say the least, the Nebraska bill, like the Nicholson letter, is susceptible of a construction favorable to the principle of squatter sovereignty; and it was for this very reason that we entertained the representatives of the State Rights Democracy to procure some amendment of its phraseology. They did not heed our suggestion, and now the attempt is made to quote their own language in justification of a principle quite as odious as the Missouri restriction.

The "Union" avails itself of an unfair advantage, and if it has any regard for the feelings of the Southern Democracy it will desist from its effort to incorporate squatter sovereignty into the platform of the party. The prerogative of defining authoritatively the principles of the Democratic party belongs exclusively to the National Convention, not to Congress, much less to any faction or individual. By its present course the "Union" will not only fail of its object, but will scatter dissension and discord into the ranks of the party. We of the South will never submit to squatter sovereignty.

In the Northern States, as our readers have been repeatedly informed, the Nebraska bill is sustained almost exclusively upon this doctrine of "squatter sovereignty." In Michigan, especially, where the views of Gen. Cass are fully understood, the "Free Press" is absolutely trying to prove the Whig candidate a frigid to slavery! Does any one doubt this anomalous position of the Western wing of the Democracy? Here is the proof:

FROM THE DETROIT FREE PRESS OF SEP. 28.

We cannot doubt that the Detroit Tribune speaks by authority when it announces, as it did on Tuesday, that Mr. William A. Howard "is in favor of repealing the Nebraska act." The Tribune is Mr. Howard's peculiar organ, and it would hardly make so material a statement without the knowledge and consent of the person most interested.

Let it be known, then, that Mr. Howard is in favor of repealing the Nebraska act. Let it be known that he is in favor of re-establishing a line south of which slavery was and would continue to be legalized by Congress. Let it be known that he is in favor of despoiling the thousands of settlers in Nebraska and Kansas of their rights acquired under the present law.

We thank the Tribune for its announcement. We now know where Mr. Howard stands. We can now drive the nail through him and clinch it on the other side. He is in favor of the old Missouri compromise line—a line which the anti-slavery people of the North have condemned from the day of its establishment up to the time Mr. Dixon, of Kentucky, proposed to repeal it. It is in favor of that would be the inevitable effect of re-establishing the line—of consigning all the Louisiana territory lying south of 36° 30' to slavery; and this territory is extensive enough for a half dozen States!

Mr. Howard must stand up to the naked declaration that he is in favor of repealing the Nebraska act. When the Nebraska act is repealed the Missouri line will be reinstated, and slavery will be legalized south of it! Mr. Stewart is opposed to the repeal of the Nebraska act. He does not believe that Congress has power to establish a

very in the Territories, nor, of course, to prohibit it. The whole question belongs to the people, and with them the Nebraska act places it.

That is to say, the squatters in Kansas and Nebraska can decide, whilst in their territorial condition, that the slaveholders of the South are to have no foothold there! Is this the "principle" the South bargained for?

As regards the proceedings of the late Political Conventions in New York the following remarks are apropos. They are copied from the New York Express, a paper always true to the Union and to the just rights of all sections of it:

"New York politicians puzzle the green eyes of other States, and we hardly wonder. These wildernesses of words that crop out in Auburn, if taken in earnest, are very alarming, and would seem to threaten chaos, the very end of things. But words in New York have not the definitions in Webster, Johnson, Richardson, or other etymological fogies. These Auburn people are only romancers. Most of them are poets, romancers, troubadours, and fancy gentlemen. The poets among them are all in earnest—but upon poetry every body staves in this life—while the others will shift their opinions as the wind shifts, and come as the winds come, and as the winds don't come, too. Slave States will be admitted into the Union always, just as they were in John Quincy Adams's day and in the days of other Presidents. The Fugitive Slave Law will be executed when the Federal Government is in earnest about its execution. Merely resolving will never change any thing, particularly when only poets and politicians resolve." The politicians will cheat the poets, and then the poets, warbling, will begin all over again. Don't be alarmed, then, any body. Only look out for the locomotive of the freight train, and keep off the track when the anti-Nebraska and the Maine Law are coming!"

Our official neighbor, the Union, with great generosity, gives all the attention it can spare from the embarrassed state of the Democracy to the concerns of the Whigs. Having kindly lent its powerful aid to a few malcontent Whig presses in the effort to overthrow the party, it rather prematurely united with them in proclaiming it dead. The lesser lights and organs of the Democracy took up the welcome strain and echoed the announcement that the Whig party was defunct. It turned out, however, that, though in somewhat delicate health, it had survived the attacks both of erring friends and open enemies, and was still alive and in the lists of battle. So the Union and its allies, Whig and Democratic, returned to the charge and showered blows so hot, if not heavy, on the head and shoulders of the indomitable old party, that they thought it must have been done for at last; and so the Union now proclaims it "not only dead, but buried." May not the wish be, as before, "father to the thought?"

"Time was when
The brains were out the men would die,
And there an end; but now they rise again,
With twenty mortal murders on their crowns,
And push us from their stools."

BUYING AT HOME.—The people of Cumberland county, Virginia, have held a public meeting and resolved to buy their goods from the direct importers of Virginia, if goods be offered by them upon as advantageous terms as those imported through New York and other Northern cities. They also resolve to patronize, in preference to all others, the literary institutions and mechanics of their own State, and all that pertains to Virginia's advancement in the arts, sciences, and learned professions, as well as in matters of recreation and pleasure. This is a wise and good move, worthy to be followed and zealously carried out all over the State. Let the Old Dominion be true to herself, think more about her material interests than the Resolutions of '98, and she will be behind none of her sister States in all the elements of a prosperous Commonwealth.

The death of the Hon. PRESLEY EWING, a Representative in Congress from the third district of Kentucky, is announced. He died of cholera last Wednesday, at the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky.

A NEW WAR STEAMER.

MR. GEORGE STEERS has entered upon his duties as Naval Constructor at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and has commenced laying down his lines for the new war-steamer Niagara, which is to be the largest ship ever built in this country. The extreme length of the Niagara will be 345 feet; depth of hold, 31 feet; breadth of beam, 65 feet; draught when loaded, 22 feet 9 inches; displacement, 5,500 tons. Mr. Steers has contracted to give her a speed of seventeen nautical miles per hour under sail alone, and a velocity of sixteen nautical miles per hour under steam alone, in case the engines are constructed by Messrs. T. H. & E. Farn. The Secretary of the Navy and the Executive at Washington have given every opportunity requisite to enable the constructor of the Niagara to make a fair trial of his system and skill. The Niagara is to be a propeller, and carry guns of eleven inch bore, or of the largest calibre ever in our navy.

The five remaining frigates are all to be much smaller than the Niagara, having a displacement of only about 3,500 tons.—*New York Times.*

THE NEW LIQUOR LAW.—The Common Council on Monday concurred with the Board of Aldermen in the bill to prohibit the sale of liquor in small quantities. The act provides that "it shall not be lawful after the first Monday in November next for any person or persons, in any part of the city of Washington, to sell or barter any brandy, rum, gin, whiskey, or other spirituous liquors, mixed or unmixed, wine, cordial, strong beer, or cider, in quantities less than a pint." The penalty for each offence is twenty dollars, and, on failure to pay, the offender to be sent to the work-house for a term not less than seven nor more than sixty days. This is considered as striking at the root of intemperance. It is to be hoped it may meet the expectations of its authors.

To make the law more effectual a bill has been introduced into the Board of Aldermen to increase the charge for a license to sell liquor, in the quantities mentioned, to forty dollars a year.

AN AMERICAN IN TROUBLE IN PERU.—A letter from Lima states that Joseph F. Haley, a printer from Portland, (Me.), has been convicted in that city of counterfeiting Government notes, having struck off \$800,000 worth. He was at first sentenced to be shot, but through the efforts of Mr. CLAY, the American Minister, his punishment was reduced to five years in the chain gang.

TELEGRAPHING.—The Richmond Penny Post speaks of the idea entertained of erecting a telegraph line from Richmond up the Central railroad to Gordonsville, and thence along the Orange and Alexandria road to Washington. The public may be presumed to be deeply interested in an increase of the facilities for spreading information, but decided reforms are required in the management of telegraphic lines. Celerity and certainty are two great requisites, but reliability and accuracy are still more needed. And, further, an earlier opening of the offices in the morning is a matter of growing necessity. The practice of waiting until 8 o'clock exhibits neither enterprise, energy, nor industry.

WISCONSIN CROPS.—The Milwaukee Sentinel of September 26th says that over sixty cars, loaded with produce, arrived there on the Saturday previous by the Milwaukee and Mississippi railroad, bringing 18,000 bushels of grain, 1,000 bushels of potatoes, 800 barrels flour, 700 barrels mill feed, besides lots of other items. The grain crops of Wisconsin are said to be unusually large.

RESULT OF THE MAINE ELECTION.

It now appears that THOMAS J. D. FULLER, the present Democratic member, is re-elected to Congress from the sixth district of Maine, and not Mr. MILLIKEN, as heretofore stated. The vote in the district is, for Mr. Fuller 4,808, Milliken 4,465, Smith 2,447. These returns show that Mr. Fuller has a plurality of 138 votes, which elect him although there is a majority against him of 2,509 votes. He voted against the Nebraska bill, and is the only Democrat elected from the State. Both of his competitors were also Anti-Nebraska men.

The complete returns for Governor show that Mr. Morrill falls 1,100 votes short of an election by the people. The Legislature will elect him. The Augusta "Age," which is the leading Democratic journal in Maine, still mourns over the unfortunate Nebraska movement, of which it says:

"Its mischief was both general and specific; general in its effect on the party, and specific on the several candidates. The general mischief visited the whole Democratic nominee; and its effects fell on anti-Nebraska candidates and Nebraska candidates alike. Many Democrats, in account of their opposition to the Nebraska bill, had made up their minds, in advance of the Congressional nominations, to signalize their disapprobation of the movement by voting directly against the Democratic party as a respect to its whole ticket; and the circumstance that the candidate for this or that post was known anti-Nebraska was not sufficient to change the determination of many of them or materially to check the general current."

The "Age" has from the start declared that the influence of the Nebraska bill upon the Democracy of the North would be pernicious, and as a specimen of the effect it gives a table of votes for members of Congress in 1852 and 1854, as follows:

| | 1852 | 1854 | |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| District 1..... | 9,218 | 6,196 | 3,022 |
| Do 2..... | 9,917 | 7,313 | 2,604 |
| Do 3..... | 8,609 | 4,072 | 4,537 |
| Do 4..... | 5,583 | 3,467 | 2,116 |
| Do 5..... | 7,720 | 6,010 | 1,710 |
| Do 6..... | 6,283 | 4,908 | 1,480 |
| | 47,390 | 31,861 | 15,469 |

The Democratic loss, according to this Democratic organ of the State, is therefore over fifteen thousand votes, merely on account of the Nebraska act, notwithstanding that the Democratic candidates for Congress in every district, except one, repudiated that measure as a party test.

LOGGING THE ISSUE.

Some of the Western papers afford amusing instances of "artful dodging." It is often announced that "Nebraska resolutions were unanimously adopted," and this sounds well to the Southern Democratic ear. But the subjoined paragraph gives an insight into the quality of the Nebraska resolutions. See how coolly the Chicago Times chuckles over the fact that the South have no line of protection, no barrier.

FROM THE CHICAGO TIMES OF SEPTEMBER 28.

KNOW IT BEFORE THE PEOPLE, that Williams, Norton, Washburne, Archer, Blackwell, Woodworth, and no other Whig and Fusion candidates for Congress in Illinois are in favor of re-establishing an arbitrary geographical line, south of which slavery shall be legalized by Congress; while Richardson, Allen, Jackson, McMurtry, Marshall, Harris, and Drake, the Democratic candidates for Congress, believe that Congress ought not to legislate upon the subject of slavery, and are in favor of leaving the people of the new Territories perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States. CHOOSE BETWEEN THEM.

The same paper states, in another article, that in every Congressional district where the Democratic party has made or will make a nomination, there has been a full, fair, open, manly declaration of principle. "They are (it says) utterly opposed to individuals to slavery. Were the question of its existence or suppression a question in which 'under the Constitution of their country they had a right to decide, they would cheerfully decide to 'set the captives free,' &c. Thus it is that a word of comfort to the anti-slavery man is regularly thrown in. With what sincerity such "natural allies of the South" must work!

DEMOCRATIC DISCONTENT.

The St. Louis Democrat complains of the time which it thinks was uselessly spent on "slavery agitation," a subject "which those who broached it said Congress had no business to discuss, and who proclaimed that they brought it into Congress in order to get it out of Congress." Referring to the disappointment felt by the Western people in consequence of the postponement of the Pacific Railroad bill and other important matters, the Democrat says:

"Is the improvement of our rivers and harbors a question to be made secondary to the agitation of slavery? Is the Pacific Railroad to be postponed by such means? Are we to wait until the corporations who fatten at the public crib are gorged before we shall be allowed to reduce the tariff and take off the tax from sugar and other necessities of life with which the people of the West are burdened?"

"We must have a Western party and a Western policy. The commerce of the West exceeds in amount the value of the entire foreign commerce of the country. Whilst for the safety of foreign commerce the nation pays not less than ten millions per annum, nothing at all can be obtained for the purpose of aiding the commerce of the West. Annual appropriations, amounting to millions, are made for the navy, for the army, for the coast survey, and for the benefit of foreign commerce. Contracts are now being made for the construction of six additional steam-frigates, to cost \$3,000,000, for its defence, and orders were issued at the same hour to sell the mag-blasts constructed two years ago for the purpose of exploding the obstructions in our Western rivers. Whilst the people of the West allow themselves to be thrown into convulsions about the questions between the North and the South, and lose sight of their own great interests in the petty squabbles about slavery, they will continue to see their interests sacrificed by their own Representatives—they will continue to see their Representatives voting against Western measures, as Douglas, Acheson, Bright, and Phelps voted against the river and harbor bill in subservience to other sections. The only remedy for the West is to stop agitating about negro slavery and commence agitating for her own interests—for the improvement of Western rivers, for a Pacific railroad, for a reduction of duties on imports, for a cession of the public lands to the land States. When they once take this ground and make it the condition of their support, to those who ask to represent them in Congress, they will have men to represent the West, and not men elected from the West and calling themselves Northern and Southern men. Fealty to the policy of the West and not fealty to the opinions of South Carolina and Massachusetts on the subject of slavery will then become a qualification of a Western representative. And we shall then cease to hear the obstructions because they will no longer serve the purpose for which slavery agitations are gotten up."

Although we might justly take exception to some of the illustrations of the above article, we must concede its general truth and reasonableness. There has been a culpable disregard of the interests of the internal commerce and intercommunication of the Western States.

CHOLERA IN JAMAICA.—The cholera has disappeared at Jamaica and Barbadoes, with the exception of a few isolated cases in the country. Trinidad and St. Lucia are free from the disease, but the other islands are comparatively healthy.

TELEGRAPHING THROUGH WATER.

Telegraphic experiments were recently made at Portsmouth, England, with perfect success, at a mill-dam five hundred feet across, by opening a galvanic battery on one side and the corresponding dial on the other side, a telegraphic message was conveyed through the water without the aid of connecting wires. An electric wire from each side was submerged, terminating, in a plate constructed for the purpose. It is contended that in the same manner a telegraphic message may be conveyed across the British channel without continuous cables of wire.

The above paragraph has lately obtained a wide newspaper circulation, and appeared in this paper of yesterday. As the impression might probably be left on the mind of the reader that the experiment therein detailed was new, it may be proper to state that it is more than a century old. In 1748 Dr. FRANKLIN and his friends held an electrical feast on the banks of the Schuylkill, near Philadelphia, which was amusing as well as scientific. The Doctor gives an account of it to his friend PRATER COLLINSON, of London, in these words:

"Chagrined a little that we have hitherto been able to produce nothing in this way of use mankind, and the hot weather coming on when electrical experiments are not so agreeable, it is proposed to put an end to them for this season, somewhat humorously, in a party of pleasure on the banks of the Schuylkill. Spirits at the same time are to be fired by a spark sent from side to side through the river without any other conductor than the water; an experiment which we some time since performed to the amusement of many. A turkey is to be killed for our dinner by the electric shock and roasted by the electric jack, before a fire kindled by the electrified bottle, when the health of all the famous electricians of England, Holland, France, and Germany are to be drunk in electrified bumpers, under a discharge of guns from the electrical battery."

Professor MORSE, we have understood, made similar successful experiments nine years ago in communicating across the Susquehanna river, and has been for some time prosecuting experiments with the view of forming a telegraphic communication between the United States and Great Britain.

LORD ELGIN'S VISIT TO DETROIT.

FROM THE DETROIT "FREE PRESS" OF SEPTEMBER 30.

Yesterday forenoon the EARL OF ELGIN, Governor General of Canada, accompanied by FRANCIS HICKES, Esq., MALCOLM CAMERON, Esq., and a number of other distinguished Canadian and English gentlemen, arrived at Windsor over the Great Western Railway. A committee of the Common Council of this city, who were in waiting to receive his Excellency, escorted him to the ferry-boat. Upon reaching this side of the river Mayor HYDE made a brief address to the Earl, tendering to him the hospitality of the city.

At an early hour in the afternoon his Lordship paid a visit to the State Fair grounds, and expressed much gratification at the goodly show of articles there presented to his vision.

At 4 P. M. the Earl and his suite, together with the Mayor, Common Council, and a large number of our citizens, sat down to a dinner at the National Hotel. Mayor HYDE presided, and Henry H. HOSKINS, Esq., officiated as Vice President. After a hearty discussion of the many good things provided by Messrs. Fellers & Benjamin, the company were called to order, and a toast was announced complimentary to his Excellency the Governor General. The sentiment was received with cheers. His Lordship responded in a brief though exceedingly happy speech. He expressed his thanks for the many courtesies that he had received, and said he had no expectation when coming to visit our Fair of meeting with such a hospitable reception. He had hitherto, however, experienced so many kindnesses at the hands of Americans that he could not but be gratified to receive such a warm and hospitable treatment could take him by surprise.

His Excellency then made a few remarks upon the subject of the Reciprocity Treaty. That measure he eulogized in the highest terms, as being beneficial alike to the citizens of Canada and the citizens of the United States; and its benefits, too, would be to each of an almost incalculable value. He had deemed it his duty, in the position in which he was placed, to promote good feeling and establish intimate commercial relations between the inhabitants of the Canadian provinces and their American neighbors; and therefore he had always been in favor of the principle contained in the treaty of reciprocity which is now shortly to go into effect. When in London, a short time ago, a desire was intimated to him by Lord CLARENDON that he should repair to Washington for the purpose of assisting in the negotiation of that treaty. With this desire he promptly complied, it affording him the most pleasant and profitable journey in his life in securing the accomplishment of a measure so fraught with benefits to both the parties concerned. His Excellency's remarks, of which we have given but a mere outline, were received by his auditors with enthusiastic applause.

He was then given complimentary to Col. JOHN PARKER, to FRANCIS HICKES, Esq., and to MALCOLM CAMERON, Esq., all of which gentlemen made brief responses, which were greeted with cheers.

About 6 o'clock the company broke up, and his Lordship and suite were escorted to the railroad depot at Windsor.

THE CALIFORNIA LAND COMMISSION.

The Southern Californian, published at Los Angeles, thus speaks of the Land Commission:

"We think that the appointment of a Board of Land Commissioners for California, in the first place, was ill advised and should not have been done. Adopting this mode of settling the titles to lands in this State has been of no benefit to the land-holder nor the Government, but, on the contrary, has operated to the disadvantage of the claimants. They have been put to enormous expenses for the purpose of securing the title to their lands, and the judgment of the Commission they are no nearer being settled than they were the day they were presented to the Board. The owners of lands, under the impression that the judgment of the Commission was final, and in case their titles were confirmed that they would be secure from further trouble, have expended large sums of money in employing lawyers to present their claims. Now it is ascertained that the passing of the title by the Board is only a preliminary step for further examination by the United States Supreme Court. In many instances the expenses in presenting titles are nearly the worth of the lands."

MAN SWIMMING THE RIVER.—We have seen some little boasting amongst some of our exchanges about persons having swum the Mississippi at different points. At Quincy, where it is a mere creek; to our Mississippi, the wharf-master swam it lately; and a late Alton paper relates that a rowdy young swam over to the island at that place to escape the police. These exploits, we don't doubt but we may hear of again, and, alas, will dwindle down to a mere nothing. Last Monday a stranger was seen to step deliberately into the river at the wharf, with his clothes and hat on, and swam the Mississippi, from the Illinois to the Missouri shore, losing scarcely two hundred yards by the current, and coming out about the ferry landing. His progress was watched by a good many persons. He swam very rapidly, his hat remaining on during the performance, nor did it appear to get wet. When he got to the opposite side he walked deliberately across the strip of beach and up the bank, carrying in the woods on the opposite side, as if he was on business.—*Chicago (Illinois) paper.*

It was ascertained that this man swam the river to avoid the payment of five cents for ferrage, which he pronounced a 4-d impost.

WHAT THE FRENCH KNEW OF US.—In the preface to a French translation of Uncle Tom's Cabin, the writer, M. La Rochelle, informs all France that:

"I pursued throughout the entire world by the generous coalition of France and England, slavery has taken root in South America. It has completely disappeared from the States of Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ohio, and Vermont." (What a classification!) "It is abolished in principle," (you see the distinction!) "in Connecticut, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Michigan, New York, Delaware, Rhode Island, Columbia, and New Jersey; but they tolerate in these States some slaves who remained in household servitude at the time of emancipation."

The Boston Transcript gives the following: "One of the most amusing incidents of the late excursion to Block Island is thus related by the Utica Telegraph: A gentleman in the wash-room told to the captain of the boat, 'Can't you give me a clean towel, Captain?' 'No,' said the Captain; 'more than fifty passengers have used that towel there, and you are the first one that's said a word against it!'"

LATE INTELLIGENCE FROM MEXICO.

The New Orleans papers have news from the city of Mexico to the 17th September.

The Mexican papers are filled (says the Courier) with reports of the marchings and counter-marchings of troops, and skirmishes between the Government troops and parties of insurgents, in all of which, according to the accounts we receive, victory has perched upon the standard of the Government. It does seem strange that, in spite of so many discomfites, the rebels should still be able to stand their ground. But they appear to spring up refreshed after every overthrow, and the blood with which they have so plentifully watered the earth seems to produce nothing but armed men ready to renew the strife.

The Boletín Oficial, of Chilpancingo, tells us that the village of Tamaulampa, which had declared for Alvarez, has been reduced to ruins by a party of the Government troops and its inhabitants dispersed in all directions.

An inscription had also been set up at Colima, headed by Jose Estrada. The rebels were attacked and totally defeated, with a loss of nine men.

A letter from Uruapan, dated August 12th, states that the insurgent chiefs, Juan Nepomuceno Garza, Antonio, and Diego Salgado, had entered the town of Apatzingan with two hundred and four men, put the Government detachment to flight, seized two stores, burnt many houses, and killed the sub-prefect, Ignacio Silva. They then marched off to join another party at Reyes.

Mr. Francisco Javier Robledo writes from Pasaquina on Friday, the 18th instant, the Government troops had an encounter with a party of two hundred insurgents. The rebels led the regulars into an ambush, killed some of them, and made others prisoners. These are a couple of instances in which it is acknowledged that the insurgents had the advantage. Another official report says that the party of insurgents which had attacked Saltepeque was afterwards defeated and dispersed by the Government troops, losing sixty killed and as many prisoners.

The publication of the official report of the execution of Count BLOMBOURG, was contained in the paper of the 12th ultimo at 6 o'clock A. M. As the Count had appointed the sentence was carried into effect, after the administration of religious solace to the Count. He is stated to have met his death with great intrepidity. The same paper states that, with the exception of Mr. DESCHAMPS and the three officers whose trial was progressing at Guaymas, all the companions of BLOMBOURG have been restored to liberty and have returned to California.

Dr. Ramon Francisco Valdez has been appointed Mexican Consul at New Orleans.

Gen. Minon and Don Jose Sandoval, who were recently pardoned by the President, have arrived at Mexico. A letter from San Miguel del Maquilal of the 30th ultimo states that the Indians in that neighborhood are cannibals. There is no end of the horrible atrocities of which they are said to be guilty.

The system of decimal weights and measures is about being adopted by the Supreme Government.

By a decree of the 30th August the Governors of the several departments are required to register the name, nationality, and occupation of every foreigner who arrives in the Republic.

CATHOLIC PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF NEW YORK.

The first Council of the Bishops and other ecclesiastical dignitaries of the Catholic Church in "the province of New York" was opened on Monday at St. Patrick's Cathedral, in New York, with all the pomp peculiar to the Roman Catholic domination.

First came a sub-deacon, wearing a crimson vestment slashed with gold, bearing the cross, and flanked on each side by an acolyte carrying an immense wax candle unlighted. Then came six or eight clergymen in full vestments, followed by the officers of the council. Next in order came the bishops, seven in number, two by two, wearing their full canonical robes and mitres, attended by boys picturesquely attired in red cassocks, white surplices, and red caps. These were followed by a sub-deacon with handsome crimson velvet cope, bearing the archiepiscopal cross of solid gold, attended by two deacons of honor, and followed by Archbishop HUGHES, in archiepiscopal robes, wearing his mitre and carrying the crozier.

The procession slowly and solemnly marched down the aisle, chanting the *missere*; and the Archbishop having taken his place on the throne, the bishops, priests, deacons, and heads of religious orders took the seats assigned them within the choir and altar rails. The following-named bishops and heads of religious orders took part in the procession, viz:

The Right Rev. Dr. McCloskey, Bishop of Albany.
" Titus, " Boston.
" " " " Hartford.
" " " " New York.
" " " " Brooklyn.
" " " " Newark.
" " " " New Orleans.
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